

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 OMB-01

ACDA-19 SAM-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 DRC-01 /162 W

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P R 041636Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1581

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T BONN 5525

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, US, XF

SUBJECT: EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE: MINISTERIAL POLITICAL
CONSULTATIONS IN LUXEMBOURG

BEGIN SUMMARY: FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL
BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR APRIL 3 ON POLITICAL CONSULTA-
TIONS OF THE EC-9 FOREIGN MINISTERS AND POLITICAL
COMMITTEE APRIL 1-2 IN LUXEMBOURG. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS
ON DISCUSSION OF EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE AND RELATED
CONSULTATION PROBLEM. THE BRITISH LIFTED THEIR RESERVE
ON THE DIALOGUE, BUT GIVEN FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT
ON CONSULTATION PROBLEM, EC DEMARCHE TO ARAB STATES
WILL NOT GO FORWARD AT THIS POINT. DISCUSSION ALSO
DEALT WITH ARAB OIL EMBARGO ON DUTCH AND DANES. SEPTELS
(NOTAL) TREAT U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND EC RENEGOTIA-
TION DISCUSSION IN LUXEMBOURG. END SUMMARY

1. VAN WELL TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE DISCUSSION OF
THE EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE HAD BEEN LESS DIFFICULT THAN
HE HAD ANTICIPATED. AS THE BRITISH HAD INDICATED BEFORE
THE MEETING, CALLAGHAN LIFTED THE UK RESERVE ON THE
DIALOGUE, BUT INSISTED THAT THERE BE ARGEEMENT ON
A SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT FOR CONSULTING WITH THE U.S.
BEFORE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE ARABS BEGINS.

2. IN COMMENTING ON CONSULTATION PROBLEM, VAN WELL
RECALLED SCHEEL'S STATEMENT IN BRUSSELS PRECEDING THE
MINISTERIAL DECISION TO GO FORWARD WITH THE EC/ARAB
DIALOGUE. VAN WELL SAID SCHEEL HAD EMPHASIZED TO THE
NINE THAT CONTACT MUST BE MAINTAINED WITH THE USG
THROUGHOUT THE ARAB DIALOGUE. DURING VAN WELL'S MARCH
20 MEETING IN PARIS WITH PUAUX (BONN 4570 - EXDIS), THE
FRENCH HAD BEEN REMINDED OF SCHEEL'S MARCH 4 STATEMENT
AS WELL AS CHANCELLOR BRANDT'S PLEDGE IN HIS MARCH 8
LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON OF "TIMELY, FULL AND MUTUAL
INFORMATION." IN REPLY PUAUX SAID BRANDT'S LETTER HAD
BEEN SENT ON HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITY RATHER THAN THAT
OF THE NINE. THEY INITIALLY HAD DIFFICULTY REMEMBERING
SCHEEL'S MARCH 4 INSISTENCE ON "MAINTAINING CONTACT
WITH THE USG." HOWEVER, AFTER EXAMINING THE FRENCH
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MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4 EC MEETING, PUAUX ACKNOWLEDGED
THAT SCHEEL HAD IN FACT MADE THIS STATEMENT.

3. BEFORE THE APRIL 1-2 MINISTERIAL MEETING IN LUXEM-
BOURG, THE GERMANS MADE DEMARCHE IN THE OTHER EC
CAPITALS RECALLING SCHEEL'S STATEMENTS AT THE MARCH 4
MEETING AND STRESSING THE NEED FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION
OF HOW SUCH CONTACT WITH THE U.S. COULD BE ASSURED

IN THE COURSE OF THE EC/ARAB DIALOGUE. VAN WELL STRESSED THAT THERE WAS BROAD SUPPORT AMONG THE 8 IN LUXEMBOURG FOR FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE U.S./EC CONSULTATION PROBLEM, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ARAB DIALOGUE. ALL 8, EXCEPT FRANCE, AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED GERMAN FORMULATION: QUOTE: THE PRESIDENCY HAS BEEN CHARGED TO ASSURE, IN THE COURSE OF THE (EC/ARAB STATE) DIALOGUE, A COMPLETE AND TIMELY EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY WITH THE U.S. END QUOTE. VAN WELL SAID THE FRENCH INDICATED A READINESS TO CONSULT WITH THIRD COUNTRIES AS OPPOSED TO STRICTLY THE U.S. IN THE EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH TOOK THE SAME POSITION ON SUCH CONSULTATIONS AS THEY DID IN THE LUXEMBOURG DISCUSSION OF THE GENERAL CONSULTATION PROBLEM, NAMELY, THAT SUCH A DECISION COULD BE TAKEN ONLY AT THE LEVEL OF MINISTERS.

4. IN THE END, IT WAS DECIDED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IN LUXEMBOURG TO RESOLVE THE CONSULTATION PROBLEM, EITHER IN THE GENRAL U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP OR IN TERMS OF MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH WASHINGTON DURING THE COURSE OF THE EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE FIRST STAGE OF THE ARAB DIALOGUE--THE EC DEMARCHE AND AIDES-MEMOIRE IN THE 19 ARAB CAPITALS PLUS SOMALIA-- WOULD BE DEFERRED PENDING AGREEMENT ON THE RELATED CONSULTATION PROBLEM. THE PRACTICAL EFFECT MAY BE A POSTPONEMENT UNTIL MID-MAY OR LATER, AS THE NEXT EC POLITICAL MINISTERIAL MEETING IS UNLIKELY TO OCCUR UNTIL THAT TIME IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN FRANCE.

5. VAN WELL SAID THE NINE MINISTERS DID APPROVE OF THE FOLLOWING CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT FORMULATION OFFERED BY THE
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GERMANS: QUOTE: THE MINISTERS ARE AGREED TO SEE TO IT THAT THE PURSUIT OF THE EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THE CURRENT EFFORTS WITH A VIEW TO SEEKING A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE NEAR EAST AS WELL AS WITH THE SITUATION OF WORLD ENERGY PROBLEMS. END QUOTE.

6. ON THE QUESTION OF THE EMBARGO AGAINST THE DUTCH AND DANES, JOBERT STRONGLY ASSERTED THAT CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO WOULD RENDER IMPOSSIBLE EC/ARAB STATE COOPERATION. HE SAID, ACCORDINGLY, THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD INSTRUCTED FRENCH AMBASSADORS TO MAKE THIS POINT IN THE 20 ARAB CAPITALS AND TO MAKE CLEAR THAT CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO COULD JEOPARDIZE THE EC/ARAB DIALOGUE. JOBERT REPORTED THAT THE FRENCH DEMARCHE HAD ATTRACTED REASONABLY POSITIVE REACTIONS IN ALL THE ARAB

CAPITALS EXCEPT KUWAIT; THE KUWAITIS HAD COMPLAINED OF A RECORDED CARNIVAL SONG CURRENTLY BEING BROADCAST BY DUTCH RADIO AND ENTITLED, "KILI, KILI, KUWAIT."

7. IN DISCUSSING THE EMBARGO THE DANES HAD SAID THEY DID NOT REALLY FEEL THE PINCH AND THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT MAKE A BIG FUSS. THE DUTCH INDICATED THAT THEY STILL WERE FEELING THE SOME 15 PERCENT SHORTAGE IN THEIR REFINING CAPACITY. THE NINE AGREED THAT, BOTH IN THEIR INITIAL DEMARCHE AND IN THE EC PRESIDENCY'S FIRST MEETING WITH THE ARAB REPS, THAT THE ARABS WOULD BE TOLD THAT THE DIALOGUE COULD NOT PROCEED INTO THE SECOND (WORKING COMMISSION) PHASE UNTIL THE EMBARGO AGAINST THE DANES AND DUTCH WAS LIFTED.

8. AS A FOOTNOTE, VAN WELL ADDED THAT THE TURKS HAD ALSO DELIVERED DEMARCHE AROUND THE EC-9 CIRCUIT EXPRESSING THEIR STRONG WISH TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE EC/ARAB COOPERATION AND OFFERING TURKISH EXPERTS TO HELP IN THE VARIOUS PROJECTS.

HILLENBRAND

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